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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Suekane et al.

Title: Magnetic Recording Medium

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Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as follows:

On page 1, immediately before line 5, please insert the following:

--This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application 09/895,679, filed June 29, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application 09/265,597, filed March 10, 1999, now U.S. Patent 6,261,681, which claims priority to Japanese Application Serial No. 10-072673, filed March 20, 1998.--

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A magnetic recording medium comprising a non-ferromagnetic substrate and a magnetic recording film formed on the substrate with an underlayer interposed therebetween, wherein the magnetic recording film comprises a plurality of Co alloy magnetic layers and an interlayer made of [a material having a B2 crystal structure or an interlayer made of] Ru[,] disposed between adjacent magnetic layers, said interlayer